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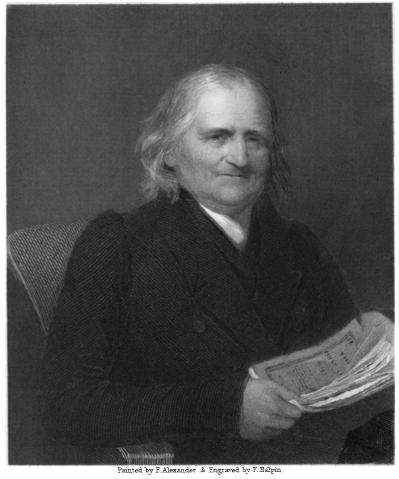
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N. Worcester_

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ADVOCATE OF PEACE,

AND UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD.

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APRIL, 1846.

No. IV.

DR. WORCESTER.

It is with great pleasure that we are able to embelish and honor our present number with an engraved portrait of that patriarch of the peace cause, the venerable Dr. Worcester. We think it must realise the idea of the man, as it exists in the minds of those who are acquainted with his writings. It is a faithful daguerreotype likeness of his character, giving us all the lineaments of its sweet benignity in lively expression. We subjoin a short sketch of this good man's history, taken from his "Memoirs," by the late Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., D. D., and published by J. Munroe & Co., Boston; a work which commends itself to every friend of humanity.—And here we would observe that it is intended that the present volume of the Advocate shall be embellished with a series of portraits of the early and earnest advocates of peace, provided the means of meeting the expense may be obtained. The next in course will probably be that of William Ladd, the American apostle of peace, whose memory ought to be precious to the commonwealth of mankind.

Dr. Worcester, born in Hollis, N. H., Nov. 25, 1753, died in Brighton, Mass., Oct. 31, 1837, at the age of seventy-nine. His early opportunities of education were very small; "neither grammar nor geography made any part of his studies; and even these scanty advantages cessed when he was but sixteen years old." The next spring, he entered, at the age of seventeen, the army of the Revolution as fifer, and continued in the service about eleven months. He was at the battle of Bunker Hill, and very narrowly escaped being taken prisoner. He served two months in 1777, and was in the battle of Bennington; but he soon after quit the service, and resisted all importunities to remain or return.

The influence of military life on his social feelings, he thus describes;

"From my childhood till I became a soldler, my sympathetic affections or passions were remarkably tender; so that I was easily moved to tears by any affecting objects or circumstances. But at the first funeral I attended at home after having been in the army, I was shocked to find myself so changed and so unmoved on such an occasion."

At the age of seventeen, Dr. Worcester taught a common school, and there learned the art of teaching himself, and laid the foundation of all his future eminence and usefulness. "In the course of that winter," says he, "I probably acquired more useful knowledge than I had ever before done in any two winters by going to school. After I became an instructor, I felt the importance of learning, and exerted myself to obtain it by such means as were then within my power. I found myself deficient in the art of writing; and being at Plymouth in New Hampshire in the summer season, where it was difficult to procure paper during the war, I wrote over a quantity of white birch bark, in imitation of some excellent copies which I found in that place. By this means I made considerable improvement in

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leisure hours, and rainy weather. About this time I procured a dictionary, which was the first I ever had the privilege of perusing, though I was then in my eighteenth year."

On the day he was twenty-one, Dr. W. was married, and settled upon a farm with no expectation of any higher sphere or destiny. Three years after, he moved from Plymouth, N. H., to Thornton, in the same State, and there made a public profession of religion. After joining the church, "he formed the habit, he says, 'of examining religious subjects by writing short dissertations on different questions.' He thus went through a long process of self-education; not so much, as is apparent, from views of ulterior advantage, as simply from the activity of his own mind, and for the satisfaction of his thoughts. This he did in the milst of many hindrances. With an increasing family, and no means of subsistence but the labor of his own hands, he yet contrived to make time for the studies that interested him. In order to do this, it was necessary to subject himself to 'excessive labor while at work;' to snatch intervals as he could between school hours in the winter, on the Sabbath, and in the night when others were sleeping. At this period and for many years after, he employed himself a portion of the time in shoe-making; and much of his studying and writing was done while he sat at work upon his bench. At the end of the bench lay his lap-board, with his pen, ink and paper upon it. When thoughts came upon him clearly, and were ready to be expressed, he laid down his shoe, placed the lap-board on his knees, and wrote 'nearly half of all that he wrote on religious subjects, before he began to preach,-including the five sermons which formed his stock to begin with, and the first pamphlet which he ever published."

In 1786 Dr. W. was licensed, at the age of twenty-eight, to preach the gospel, and was ordained the year following in the place of his residence, over a small Congregational Society too poor for his adequate support; yet he remained with them more than twenty years, and even after he changed his views respecting the Trinity, and published them in his "Bible News." In consequence of this change, he was appointed editor of the Christian Disciple, and removed in 1813 to Brighton; but he relinquished the editorship of that work in 1818, and commenced the publication in quarterly numbers, of The Friend of Peace, which he sustained almost exclusively with his own pen for ten years, up to the time of his retiring, at the age of seventy, from public life in 1828. From this date to his death in 1837, he continued a very diligent student, devoting his time mainly to favorite points in theology, and preparing for the press several pamphlets, and one or two volumes on those topics.

NOAH WORCESTER, D. D.

BY REV. E. DAVIS.

In days of old, when sternly
Upon the tented field,
Our fathers battled for their rights,
Determined not to yield;
When, through the precious seed time,
The rusty plough stood still—
When bright swords flashed upon the plain,
And watch fires on the hill;

An ardent youth went gaily
Forth from his loved home then,
To mingle in the deadly strife,
With mighty, war-scarred men.
And flercely strove the stripling,
Amid the hosts that won
The world's applause, at Bunker Hill,
And far-famed Benningto.